

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**DATE: APRIL 6, 2021**

**ATTENDING:** ALLEN, BERKEL, FRANK, PENGLASE, PULVER

**ABSENT:**

**OTHERS ATTENDING:**

**CALLED TO ORDER AT:** 5:36 PM

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** March 30, 2021; *Approved 4-0; 1 Absent*

**NOTICES:** Annual Town Meeting, June 8, 5:00PM at French Park

**HANDOUTS:** Amy Pulver worksheet re: budget requests  
*note: green items have been approved by the SB*

**REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS:** Paul emailed

**AGENDA:**

**UPDATES ON THE FOLLOWING:**

(A) Town Meeting preparation

BOS meets next week and aims to publish the warrant by May 19, though that is unlikely

(B) BOS Budget process to date (Laura and Amy)

(C) Transportation Committee (Laura)

(i) seeking 2 employees at \$19/hr

Van is due in September, leased from BRTA to Town

## UPDATES (CON'T)

- (D) Special Articles being considered – Schedule B attached
  - (i) Capital Expenses / Equipment
    - (a) Fire Truck: Tom will ask Joe Schneider for additional information
    - (b) Highway (Jim Noe):
      - a. Laura: dump truck, highway pickup truck
    - (c) Buildings & Grounds (Tom Reynolds):
      - a. Truck (Berkel)
      - b. Tractor-mower (Berkel)
      - c. Buildings & Grounds building (Frank): review records for the building (ask Mary)
    - (d) Police cruiser: Amy Pulver
  - (ii) Library grant: Laura
  - (iii) Mt. Washington Road: repairs are essential
  
- (E) Southern Berkshire Ambulance (Laura)
  - (a) Independent foundation (\$800,000 endowment) does not fully support the squad
  - (b) Squad is seeking donations from Towns as well as individuals
  - (c) Hybrid system: volunteers are supplemented by private ambulance services
  - (d) Several member towns are seeking board seats on SBAS
  - (e) FC members seek further information about the professionalization, including exploring the need for a Working Committee/Task Force to make tactical and strategic plans for the future of ambulance services in South County
  
- (F) Town Campus Committee: Bryan Frank will contact Mary McGurn
  
- (G) Regional School Planning Board
  - (i) Requested and received \$125,000 from the Commonwealth for consultancy to review the feasibility of combining school districts (Berkshire Hills and Southern Berkshire)
  - (ii) Tom is assembling a pro forma; combined budget could be nearly \$50 MM

**RESERVE FUND TRANSFERS:**

<b><u>ACCT NO.</u></b>	<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT REQUESTED</u></b>	<b><u>VOTED</u></b>
------------------------	--------------------	--------------------------------	---------------------

**Grants being applied/applied for: Library  
Municipal Vulnerability Program**

**BUDGET REQUESTS**

**See Schedule A attached (approved by BOS to date)**

**OFFICIALS' ITEMS:**

**CITIZENS' ITEMS:**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE ITEMS/UPDATES:**

**Collective Bargaining for both Police and Highway is in its last year (22).  
Set up Capital Planning Committee**

Next Finance Committee meeting: April 20, 2021 at 5:30 pm

**ADJOURNED: 6:45 PM**